PROMISE: OFFERING UNDER GOD'S BASIC SYSTEM

HOW MUCH:

The Principle of Purpose:
2 Cor. 9:7 "... give as he purposes in his heart..." A purpose about 'how much' to give must be established in the heart prior to the act of giving. It will not be moved by any circumstances.

The Principle of Proportionality:
Deut. 16:17; 1 Cor. 16:2 "... accroding to the blessing...," or "... as he may prosper..." The change on prosperity will bring an equivalent and fair change on the amount given, as tithe and Promise are proportioned to the income (CS 73).

WHEN:

The Principle of Priority:
Matt. 6:33; Prov. 3:9, 10 "But seek first..." and "... with the firstfruits..." - that what belongs to god (tithes and Promise) should be returned by the worshiper immediately after the tithe, and before any other expense is met or giving is done (Prov. 3:9; Matt. 6:33; CS 80-81).

The Principle of Regularity:
Prov. 3:9 "... with the first fruits of all your increase," when there is an increase, and every time there is an increase.

MY PROMISE PERCENTAGE: ____%

GOD FIRST
ADVENTIST STEWARDSHIP MINISTRIES

ADAPTED FROM CHRISTINA HAWKINS' INFOGRAPHIC ON REGULAR OFFERINGS.

WHAT IS PROMISE?

GOD FIRST
ADVENTIST STEWARDSHIP MINISTRIES

WHAT IS PROMISE?

It is a regular and systematic offering, "purposed" by the worshipper (2 Cor. 9:7) **as a porportion or percentage** (1Cor. 16:2; Deut. 16:17) of any income (Prov. 3:9).

It is as binding as tithe (Mal. 3:8-10).

PRINCIPLES GUIDING OUR GIVING

A token of a life surrendered to God.
Lev. 1:4,9

An exercise of trust in God's ability to provide.
Ps. 34:8-10; 1 Chr. 29:14

Must come from a heart at peace with others.
Matt. 5:23, 24

Following Jesus pattern, who sacrificed all for our sake.
2 Cor. 8:1, 9

An expression of gratitude, trust, praise and honor to God for His blessings. Prov. 3:9, 10; 2 Cor. 9:12, 13

PHILOSOPHY & NATURE OF PROMISE

Promise, or regular offerings (regularity determined by the income), **and the tithe, are required by the Lord. Not to return them configures dishonesty to Him** (Mal. 3:8-10).

Tithe and Promise (regular and systematic offerings) **are under the same principle: proportioned to the income** (1 Cor. 16:2; Deut. 16:17; CS 73).

Promise (regular and proportional offering) **is the most basic way of giving.** Prov. 3:8; Mal 3:8-10.

Freewill offerings may be given in addition and beyond Promise. Ex. 25:2; 38:3.

It is called "Promise" because the percentage must be vowed or "purposed" in the heart. 2 Cor. 9:7.

God's blessings (my increase or income) **will determine when I will give Promise, not my feelings, sympathies, calls or even relevant projects or ministries. (**Prov 3:9, 10; CS 25, 80, 81).

RECOMMENDED DISTRIBUTION OF PROMISE

According to Christ's Great Commission (Acts 1:8):

50-60% **"Jerusalem" (Local Church)—**The local budget, missionary projects, building, the needy, to help other churches.

20-30% **"Judea" (Regional Mission)—**Development and missionary projects of your conference, union and division.

20% **"End of the Earth" (International Mission)—**Adventist World Radio, Hope Channel, ADRA, Global MIssion (Centers of Influence).